Hoda Committee's report on export of iron-ore

634. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hoda Committee's report has been received by Government on export of iron-ore; and

(b) if so, the outline of the same with special emphasis on existing stock of Hematite iron-ore, its production and consumption pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) The High Level Committee, under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission, has reviewed National Mineral Policy, 1993, Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, and has suggested changes to encourage investment in exploration and exploitation of minerals. The Committee has considered the present stock of Hematite iron-ore, its production and consumption pattern, and has suggested that there is no need to impose any quantitative restriction on export.

Aerial surveys of mineral deposits in Andhra Pradesh

635. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for seeking prior approval of Central Government for conducting aerial survey of valuable mineral deposits in the State alongwith district-wise details of each such proposals;

(b) the number of reconnaissance permits granted so far to State Government against the proposals; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated/released to State Government for such surveys?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Approval for conducting aerial survey as part of reconnaissance operations does not fall within the purview of the Ministry of Mines. In this regard, Directorate General of Civil Aviation

(DGCA) has informed that they have not received any proposal from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for conducting aerial survey.

(b) Prior approval of Central Government has been given in respect of two proposals of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for grant of Reconnaissance Permits in last three years.

(c) No funds are allocated to the State Governments by the Central Government for conducting such surveys.

Grievances redressal camps

636. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has started holding grievances redressal camps at State capitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such camps held in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of the results achieved from these camps?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Purview of the Ministry

637. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the purview of the newly created Ministry of Minority Affairs;

(b) whether Government are aware that the creation of his Ministry has the potential of furthering divisive policy in the country; and

(c) the specific jobs undertaken by his Ministry, so far?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) the subjects allotted to the Ministry of Minority Affairs are given in the Statement (*See* below).